Presiding Officers after obtaining recommendations of concerned High Courts and following selection procedures.

Number of Agricultural Workers

2357. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) number of agricultural workers, State-wise at present;

(b) how these compare to those existing in 1961, 1971 and 1981;

(c) whether there has been a persisting rise in their number;

(d) if so, reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government propose to bring a comprehensive legislation for the welfare of agricultural workers; and

(f) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) A statement showing number of agricultural workers as per 1991 Census is annexed. *(see* below).

(b) and (c) The number of agricultural workers have been increasing as given below:

Year	No. of agricultural workers (in millions)
1961	31.52
1971	47.49
1981	55.50
1991	74.60

(d) The growth in numbers of agricultural workers is attributable to various socio-economical factors including insufficient alternative employment opportunities.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The proposed legislation would provide for regulation of employment and conditions of service of agricultural workers and for certain welfare measures for them.

Statement

SI. No.	State/Union Territory	Agricultural Workers (1991 Census)
1.	INDIA	74,5f7,744 (excluding J & K)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11,625,159
2.	Assam	844,964
3.	Bihar	9,512,892
4.	Gujarat	3,230,547
5.	Haryana	896,782
6.	Himachal Pradesh	58,668
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	—
8.	Karnataka	4,999,959
9.	Kerala	2,120,452
10.	Madhya Pradesh	5,863,029
11.	Maharashtra	8,313,223
12.	Manipur	47,350
13.	Meghalaya	89,492
14.	Nagaland	7,233
15.	Orissa	2,976,750
16.	Punjab	1,452,828

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Agricultural Workers (1991 Census)
17.	Rajasthan	1,391,670
18.	Sikkim	12,851
19.	Tamil Nadu	7,896,295
20.	Tripura	187,538
21.	Uttar Pradesh	7,833,258
22.	West Bengal	5,055,478
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4,989
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	20,054
25.	Chandigarh	1,642
26.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	6,233
27.	Delhi	25,195
28.	Goa	35,284
29.	Daman & Diu	1,199
30.	Lakshadweep	—
31.	Mizoram	9,527
32.	Pondicherry	77,203

New Legislation for the Agricultural Workers

2358. SHRI M.A. BABY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring legislations for the agricultural workers;

(b) if so, the stage of the same;

(c) whether any draft Bill has been prepared;

(d) if so, the details of the same; and

(e) the number of people to be benefited out of this?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to introduce a bill for regulation of employment & working conditions of agricultural workers and to provide for certain welfare measures. This is likely to benefit about 135 million agricultural workers. The proposal is awaiting final decision.

Employment in Private Sector

2359. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any study about the number of persons who got regular or partial employment in private/multinational corporations during the last three years as a result of economic liberalisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the number of persons registered with the Employment Exchanges in the country has come down during this period?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):'(a) & (b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.